

Parish Offerings – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost — June 14, 2020

“Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Cor 9:7)

Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks

Regular Offering (\$1,011) YP (\$5)	\$1,016.00
Pentecost (\$100) All Saints (\$290) YP (\$2)	392.00
Seminary	10.00
Votive Candles	65.50
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	\$1,483.50

Holy Ghost Church, Northside

Regular Offering	\$686.00
Pentecost (\$5) All Saints (\$15) Holy Days (\$25)	45.00
Improvements (\$10) Eastern European (\$5)	15.00
Candles	47.00
	<hr/>
	\$793.00

Church Attendance Last Week

Sat., 4:00 p.m. (28)

Sun., (MR) 9:00 a.m. (41); (NS) 11:00 a.m. (22)



HOLY GHOST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

225 OLIVIA STREET
1437 SUPERIOR AVENUE

McKEES ROCKS, PA 15136
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212

THE 3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Father's Day
June 21, 2020



Catholics of the Ruthenian – Byzantine Rite in full communion with the Pope of Rome

The Very Reverend Father Frank A. Firko, Pastor
Pastor, Administrator & Protopresbyter
The Reverend Deacon Michael Meaders (NS)

Rectory: (412) 771-3324; Church Fax: (412) 331-1870
MR School Hall Kitchen: (412) 331-5155

Web-site: www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org – E-Mail: ffaf334@verizon.net

SUNDAY RADIO (9:00 am WEDO 810 AM) & INTERNET DIVINE LITURGY
Liturgical Services LIVE: www.Youtube.com then type: Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

Valerian F. Szal
238 Helen St.,
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
Phone: (412) 331-9713
Fax: (412) 331-6688
Michael P. Ferrell,
Supervisor, CFSP
Our Family Still Serving Yours Since 1953

Summer
is here!

DESIGNS BY NANCY
235 McCartney Drive,
Moon Township 15108
Phone: (412) 262-9141
Nanode@aol.com
Nancy C. Debranski
Sewing, Alterations, Custom Embroidery and Unique Gifts

Sunday Divine Liturgies
Saturday (MR) 4:00 pm
Sunday (MR) 9:00 am
Holy Ghost (NS) 11:00 a.m.

Holy Day Divine Liturgies
w/Great Vespers (Oblig)
(MR): 7:00 pm
Holy Day (MR) 9:00 am; (NS) 6:00 pm

Daily Divine Liturgy
M-F (MR) 8:00 am
Sat. (NS) 9:00 am.

GCU
Greek Catholic Union of the USA
A Fraternal Benefit Society
Lodge 390 offers Insurance and Annuity Benefits greater than most financial institutions. Info call Tina (412) 859-9597

This space available for ads for wishing someone birthday or anniversary greetings, get-well wishes, etc.
Call the office (412) 771-3324

Please patronize our fabulous sponsors! They make it possible to bring you this weekly & informative S.O.T. without an added expense to the Church. New Sponsors please contact Church 9 til 1.

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation: Sat (MR): 3:15 to 3:40 pm & Sun (MR) 8:15 to 8:40 am.; (NS) 10:30 am
Holy Mysteries of Initiation: Contact Church Office for Baptism, Chrismation and Eucharist.
Holy Mysteries of Anointing: Ask especially prior to surgery or any other time.
Holy Mystery of Matrimony: Contact pastor one year in advance; Pre-Cana Classes required.
Sponsor of Christian Initiation: Godparents must be practicing Catholics.
Religious Education Classes: (MR) Coordinator: Steve Puluka (412) 897- 4650.
GCU Lodge 390: (MR) Contact Tina Burns (412) 859-9597 for membership requirements.
Slavjane Folk Ensemble: (MR) Membership requirements contact Bob Bartko: (412) 779-0915.
Carpatho-Rusyn Radio Broadcast: Every Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. WPIT 730 AM.
Social Hall Rental: (MR) Contact Church Office.
New & Returning Parishioners: Welcome! Please register by phoning the Church Office.
Remember the Church in Your Will: *Please be so kind as to remember the Church in your last will and testament. This helps to secure its future & a Byzantine Catholic witness to all!*

THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

When the Most High descended and confused tongues, He scattered the people; but when He distributed the tongues of fire, He called all men to unity. Therefore, with one voice, let us glorify the Most Holy Spirit (Matins of Pentecost Sunday).

June 21, 2020

Seasonal Greeting

Volume X, Number 25



Glory to Jesus Christ! — Glory Forever!
Slava Isusu Christu! — Slava Na Viki!



Liturgical Services for the Week

Date Time Intention Requested By

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

2nd Sunday of the Petrine Fast — Annual Father's Day

SUN., Jun 21 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Deceased Fathers of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
A Moleben will be offered for our eldest parishioner, Mary Sahayda, on her 103rd Birthday 6/17

Mon, June 22 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Myronna + Bill Duggan Theresa Kundrat

Tue, June 23 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Joanna C. McCarthy Son: Joseph

Feast of the Nativity of the Holy Prophet, Precursor, & Baptist of the Lord, John — Solemn Holy Day

RECOMMENDED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Wed, Jun 24 9:00 a.m. (MR) + Elsie Eberle (birthday) Son: James



6:00 p.m. (NS) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes

Thrs., June 25 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Steve Muska Bro: Mike

REQUIRED SIMPLE ABSTINENCE (no meat) or Equivalent Penance (your choice): for vocations

Fri, Jun 26 8:00 a.m. (MR) + Marlene Andrascik Anonymous

Sat, June 27 9:00 a.m. (NS) + Andrew Latta Wife: Arlene & Family

Sunday anticipated Divine Liturgy of the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

4:00 p.m. (MR) + Ann Lubas (birthday 6/24) Dgtr: Nancy, Jenö & Nina Lecci

4th Sunday after Pentecost

3rd & Final Sunday of the Petrine Fast

SUN., Jun 28 9:00 a.m. (MR) For the Parishioners of Both Parishes
11:00 a.m. (NS) + William Gogal (wed ann) Wife: Nancy

General Announcements

All Birthdays will be published in SOT each week so that prayers may be offered on these special occasions. Please advise the Church office if your special day does not appear or if you wish your name and date not be published.

Note: Capitalized Names designate North Side parishioners

Birthdays: Jun 21 – Nancy Cifrulak; Jun 24 – Kristin Ruud, BRADLEY SPONTAK; Jun 26 – Patricia Porter.

Pray for the Ill, Infirm & Shut-ins of Our Parishes

HOME: Margaret Beliunas, Helen Best, Irene Bordas, Florence Charochak, Margaret Cifrulak, MARY ANN CONTI, Ilona Goyda, TAMARA HARDING, Beverly Harsh, MARTHA LUCAS, Olga Manfredo, Irene Muha, Mike Muska, Irene Palahunik, MARLENE PFEIFFER, Lisa Plutto, Anna May Sejka, Betty Spisak, Anita Wolsko, EVELYN VENTO, SHIRLEY YANOSKO.

MAPLEWOOD PC HOME (461 Maplewood Ave. Ambridge, PA 15003): Doris Naughton.

HIGHLAND PARK CARE CENTER (745 North Highland Ave., Pgh, PA 15206): Linda Reiger.

MARIAN MANOR (2695 Winchester Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15220): Irene Bednar.

CHIPPEWA PLACE (7005 Stadium Dr., Apt 427, Brecksville, OH 44141): Stephen Katrenich.

FAIR OAKS ASSISTED LIVING (2200 W. Liberty Ave., Pgh, 15226): ANNA MARIE DEMIANCZYK.

LUTHERAN SENIORLIFE (500 Wittenberg Way, Mars PA 16046): William Zavidny.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR (1028 Benton Ave., PGH 15212): MARY SAHAYDA.

VETERANS HOSPITAL (1010 Delafield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15215): JOHN VEREB.

VANADIUM WOODS VILLAGE (50 Vanadium Rd, # 230, Bridgeville, PA 15017): Helen Hopey.

Public questions on Catholic spirituality, moral & spiritual problems

Q. Is fighting a sin? A. Answer by Catholic Answers: It depends. If fighting is done out of aggression, especially for the purpose of seriously injuring another person, then it is a grave sine against the fifth commandment, "You shall not kill" (Ex 20:13; CCC 2258). This commandment refers not merely to killing but to any attempt to unjustly harm another person. (Note: Some modern translations of the Bible use the word "murder" instead of "kill" in this commandment. 'Murder is actually a more literal translation of the original Hebrew.) Jesus taught that we should not try to "get even" for attacks on ourselves, even physical attacks, when they involve only ourselves and cause no serious harm. This is really what He meant by "turn the other cheek" (Mt 5:39; Lk 6:29). Jesus' command to "turn the other cheek" means that we should not start fights, and we should forgive people's offenses against us. It does not mean, though, that we have to be beaten up by a cruel aggressor. If attacks on others are also involved or there is a chance of injury to oneself, then the commandment "You shall not kill" does not apply (CCC 2265-65). We can defend ourselves and are obliged to protect others as best we can. We are to use only as much force as necessary to stop an aggressor.

This Week's Sanctuary Lamps

Continue to burn before the real presence of our Lord, God & Savior Jesus

June 21 — June 27, 2020

(MR): In memory of Michael Sejka (birthday 6/17)
offered by Children

(NS): In memory of Betty & Jay Mowery

All reserved for 2020

offered by Dgtr: Barbara "Babs"

(NS) All reserved for 2020



General Announcements

CONTINUING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC — During this time of frustration and guidelines, your patience and understanding are truly welcomed. Our parish has been doing its best to keep all safe when coming to Church. It may not be a perfect plan, but we are surely trying to accommodate the best in areas of social distancing. As you know at HGC-MR entering and exiting into the Church are through the side door. MR-Main door has been temporarily closed for the remainder of June. Commencing Independence Day Weekend, the front doors of the Church will be available for entering and exiting. You are encouraged to wear masks. The yellow tape blocking some pews will be removed. It will be your responsibility to stay at a safe distance. Thank you for enduring the instructional guidelines that are currently in place.

**THANK YOU
FOR BEING PATIENT**

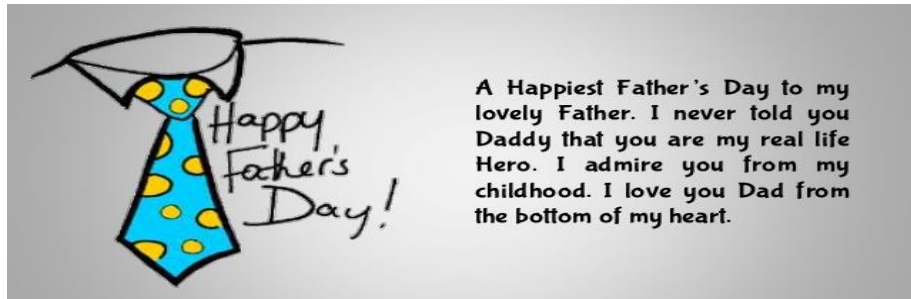
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF FATHER'S DAY — Father's Day was the invention of **Sonora Smart Dodd (1892-1978)** of Spokane, Washington, who reportedly came up with the idea while listening to a Mother's Day sermon at the Central Methodist Episcopal Church in 1909. Raised by her widowed father, Sonora felt that her father should be honored in the same way mothers were since Anna Jarvis created Mother's Day four years earlier. The first official "Father's Day" was held in Spokane in 1910. Despite its detractors—and there were many—the idea of a national "Father's Day" picked up steam when it was endorsed in 1924 by President Calvin Coolidge. In 1926 the National Father's Day Committee was formed by a group of New York City



merchants who saw the value in yet another day when people would feel obligated to buy things. Once again, the media mocked the concept as just one more example of commercialism at its crudest. It took another 30 years for "Father's Day" to be recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress, and yet another decade for the holiday to be declared "real" in an official proclamation by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966. It was finally established as a federally recognized holiday by *President Richard Nixon in 1972, who declared it would be celebrated on the third Sunday of June.*

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As we commence our journey through the Petrine Fast, let us offer Simple Abstinence (no meat) or an Equivalent Penance on Recommended Wednesdays & REQUIRED Fridays! Let us offer our prayer & abstinence for the intention of an increase of Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and for all priests.

3rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Don't Be Anxious — Seek First His Kingship Over You!

(Matthew 6:22-34)

What does "serving two masters" and "anxiety" have in common? They both have the same root problem -- being divided within oneself. The root word for "anxiety" literally means "being of two minds". An anxious person is often "tossed to and fro" and paralyzed by



indecision. Fear of some bad outcome usually cripples those afflicted with anxiety. It's also the case with someone who wants to submit to God but also live according to the world's standards of success and fulfillment. Who is the master in charge of your life? Our "master" is that which governs our thought-life, shapes our ideals, controls the desires of the heart and the values we choose to live by.

We can be ruled by many different things -- the love of money or possessions, the power of position, the glamour of wealth and prestige, the driving force of unruly passions and addictions. Ultimately the choice boils down to two: God and "mammon". What is mammon? "Mammon" stands for "material wealth or possessions" or whatever tends to "control our appetites and desires". There is one Master alone who has the power to set us free from the slavery of sin and fear. That Master is the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus uses an illustration from nature — the birds and the flowers — to show how God provides for them in the natural order of his creation. How much more can we, as his children, rely upon God's providential care? God is utterly reliable. In the Lord's Prayer we are reminded that God is our provider when we pray: *Give us this day our daily bread.* What is bread, but the very staple of life and symbol of all that we need to live and grow. Anxiety is neither helpful nor necessary. It robs us of faith and confidence in God's help and it saps our energy for doing good. Jesus admonishes his followers to put away anxiety and preoccupation with material things and instead to seek first the things of God — his kingdom and righteousness. Anxiety robs the heart of trust in the mercy and goodness of God and in his loving care for us. God knows our needs even before we ask and he gives generously to those who trust in him. Who is your master -- God or mammon?

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Pope-Emeritus Benedict's Prayer for Priests

Lord Jesus Christ, eternal High Priest, you offered yourself to the Father on the altar of the Cross and through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit gave your priestly people a share in your redeeming sacrifice. Hear our prayer for the sanctification of our priests. Grant that all who are ordained to the ministerial priesthood may be ever more conformed to you, the divine Master. May they preach the Gospel with pure heart and clear conscience. Let them be shepherds according to your own Heart, single-minded in service to you and to the Church and shining examples of a holy, simply and joyful life. Through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary, your Mother and ours, draw all priests and the flocks entrusted to their care to the fullness of eternal life where you



live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

June 24 Nativity of St. John the Baptist — (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 June 29 **Holy Day of Obligation:** Feast SS. Peter & Paul (MR) 9:00 a.m.; (NS) 6:00 p.m.
 July 4 A special (MR) 9:00 a.m. Patriotic Divine Liturgy.
 July 20 Simple Holy Day: Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah — Blessing of Vehicles.
 (MR) 9:00 a.m. & (NS) 6:00 p.m.

Solemn Holy Day of the Week Nativity of St. John the Baptist — June 24

Six months before his appearance in Nazareth to the All-holy Virgin Mary, the great archangel of God, Gabriel appeared to Zachariah the high priest in the Temple at Jerusalem. Before he announced the miraculous conception to the unwed virgin [Mary], the archangel announced the miraculous conception to the childless old woman [Elizabeth]. Zachariah did not immediately believe the words of the herald of God and this is why his tongue was tied with dumbness and remained as such until eight days after the birth of John. On that day, the relatives of Zachariah and Elizabeth gathered for the young child's circumcision and for the sake of giving him a name. When they asked the father, what name he wishes to give to his son and being dumb, he wrote on a tablet: "John." At that moment his tongue



became loosed and he began to speak. The home of Zachariah was on the heights between Bethlehem and Hebron. The news of the appearance of the angel of God to Zachariah was spread throughout all of Israel, as well as of his dumbness and the loosening of his tongue at the moment when he wrote the name "John." The news concerning this even reached Herod. Therefore, when Herod sent soldiers to slay the children throughout Bethlehem, he directed men to the hilly dwelling place of the family of Zachariah to kill John also. However, Elizabeth promptly hid the child. Enraged, King Herod sent his executioners to Zachariah in the Temple to slay him (for it happened that it was Zachariah's turn again to serve in the Temple of Jerusalem). Zachariah was slain between the court and the temple and his blood coagulated and petrified on the stone pavers and remained a perpetual witness against Herod. Elizabeth hid with the child in a cave where she died soon after. The young child John remained in the wilderness alone under the care of God and God's angels.

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General Announcements

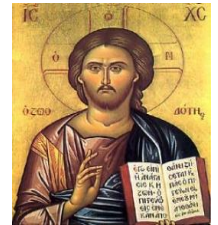
REGISTER FOR A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE — The Archeparchy wishes to honor those who are celebrating their 10, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 etc. anniversary of marriage this year. This celebration has been extended on a new format. It will take place on **Sunday, September 13, 2020 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. Elias Church, Munhall.** If you are observing one of the above milestones, *please contact the Church office if you plan or DO NOT plan to attend!* All anniversaries submitted will be published in a September issue of the SOT. *The final day of registration is Sunday, July 26.*



Prayer of Pope St. John Paul II for Vocations

This prayer is said near the end of the morning Divine Liturgy during the Petrine Fast from June 8 through June 28. As we prepare for the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul, let us unite our voices together daily and pray for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life; and to pray for all Priests

O Jesus, Good Shepherd, accept our prayers and our humble thanks for all vocations which, through Your Spirit, you give liberally and continually to our Church. Assist the bishops, priests, missionaries and all consecrated persons; enable them to give example of truly evangelical life. Make strong and persevering in their intentions those who are preparing for the sacred ministry and consecrated life. Multiply the laborers of the Gospel to announce Your name to all peoples. Take care of all the young in our communities; grant them readiness and generosity to follow You. Today, too, turn Your gaze upon them and call them. Grant to all the call, the strength to abandon everything in order to choose only You Who are love. Forgive the non-responses and infidelities of those Whom You have chosen. Listen, O Christ, to our invocations through the intercession of most holy Mary, Your Mother and Queen of the Apostles. She, who, having believed and replied generously, has been the cause of our joy; accompany with her presence and her example those whom You call to total service in Your Kingdom. Amen.



ACT & SUPPORT FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CONTINUES — DEFEND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



— Catholic eparchies and dioceses across the Commonwealth are marking Religious Freedom Week which began **June 22 and continues through June 29:** Let us stand up and learn, defend, proclaim the Truth of our Faith and by offering this prayer for Religious Freedom: **O God our Creator, from your provident hand we have received our right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. You have called us as your people and given us**

the right and the duty to worship you, the only true God, and your Son, Jesus Christ. Through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society. We ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith. Grant, we pray, O heavenly Father, a clear and united voice to all your sons and daughters gathered in your Church in this decisive hour in the history of our nation, so that, with every trial withstood and every danger overcome — for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all who come after us — this great land will always be "one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Amen."